CALL THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF PROGRAM AT (408) 299-7300

Hazardous waste drop-off days take place every month on a Saturday.

*Please be prepared to provide information on the types and quantities of hazardous waste produced by your business.

Additional Hazardous Waste Drop-off Programs in Santa Clara County

Palo Alto's Department of Public Works offers this service to small businesses operating in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View. For more information, call the City of Palo Alto at (415) 496-6980.

The City of Sunnyvale also conducts regular hazardous waste drop-offs for small businesses operating in Sunnyvale. For more information, call (408) 730-7262.

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Santa Clara County
Department of Environmental Health
P.O. Box 28070
San Jose, CA 95159-8070

Reduce...Reuse...Recycle...then Dispose

Hazardous Waste Disposal Program for Small Businesses in Santa Clara County



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Department of Environmental Health
P.O. Box 28070
San Jose, CA 95159-8070

(408) 299-7300

General Information

It is very difficult and expensive to dispose of small amounts of hazardous wastes. This sometimes leads to the illegal disposal of hazardous wastes to our sanitary sewers, landfills, storm drains, or directly to the ground. Improper disposal can contaminate our drinking water, pollute the San Francisco Bay and endanger refuse, storm drain and sewer workers.

Small business owners now have a legal and affordable solution to their hazardous waste disposal problems. Eligible businesses can now take their hazardous wastes to the County's mobile hazardous waste drop-off program.

What type of business is eligible?

If your business generates less than 100 kilograms (27 gallons or 220 pounds) of hazardous waste each month, you are legally classified as a "conditionally exempt small quantity generator" (CESQG). State law allows CESQGs to bring their hazardous wastes to government-sponsored drop-off programs.

Examples of businesses that may generate small quantities of hazardous wastes include print shops, graphic art studios, furniture refinishing companies, paint contractors, schools, auto body shops and dental offices.



How much will it cost?

Although this service is not free, the County will consolidate the small quantities of wastes received, resulting in cost savings for you. Disposal costs vary depending on the types and quantities of waste that you have. When you call the appointment line, you must describe exactly how much and what types of wastes you have. We will give you the cost for disposal over the phone, and then you can decide if you would like to use this County service. It's that easy!

How can I register?

We must first verify that your business is eligible to participate. To do this, we ask that you:

- Certify in writing that your business generates less than 100 kilograms of waste per month (we will send you a certification form);
- Pay handling and disposal costs for your business waste.

If you generate hazardous waste on a continuous basis, we will also ask that you:

- Register with the County as a hazardous waste generator;
- Obtain an EPA ID# from the state by calling (916) 324-1781.

Call Santa Clara County, Department of Environmental Health for more information: (408) 299-7300

What else do I need to know?

Storage

CESQGs may store hazardous waste until 100 kilograms (or up to one kilogram of extremely hazardous waste) are accumulated. At that point, the waste must be off-site in 90 days. The total storage time may never exceed one year.

Label all containers storing hazardous wastes according to state regulations. *Call the Hazardous Materials Compliance Division at (408) 299-6930 if you need assistance with these or any other hazardous waste compliance requirements.*

Transportation

The general public may self-haul up to 5 gallons or 50 pounds of hazardous waste. If you plan to transport more than this amount, we will send you a state variance which allows CESQGs to transport up to 27 gallons or 220 pounds (100 kilograms) per trip. You will receive more information about transportation requirements when you register.

Reduce the amount of hazardous wastes that you produce!

- Buy only what you need
- Use the product up (follow directions)
- Use non-toxic alternatives
- Keep containers closed
- Do not mix wastes
- Give left-over products away for reuse

Never dilute or evaporate hazardous wastes!